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Appl. No. 10/081,167

Amdt. dated February 28, 2006

Reply to Office Action of November 28, 2005

PATENT**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Claims 1 and 3-31 were pending in this application. Claims 1, 20, 22, and 28 have been amended. No claims have been added. Claim 29 has been cancelled. Hence, claims 1, 3-28, 30, and 31 remain pending. Reconsideration of the subject application as amended is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 3, 7-12, 14, 15, 20, 22, 23, 24, 26 and 28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the cited portions of U.S. Patent No. 6,032,184 to Cogger, *et al.* (hereinafter "Cogger"), and further in view of the cited portions of U.S. Patent No. 5,666,481 to Lewis (hereinafter "Lewis").

Claims 4-6, 30 and 31 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Cogger and Lewis, and further in view of the cited portions of U.S. Patent No. 6,219,648 to Jones, *et al.* (hereinafter "Jones").

Claims 13, 21, 25 and 29 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Cogger and Lewis, and further in view of the cited portions of U.S. Patent No. 6,658,586 to Levi, *et al.* (hereinafter "Levi").

Claims 1, 20, 22, and 28 have been amended to more particularly recite the Applicant's claimed invention.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

All independent claims have been amended to include subject matter not taught or suggested by the cited references. For example, claim 1 includes "in response to the failure, halting an in-progress production job being run on the failed machine." The cited references do not teach or suggest this. Cogger, for example, appears to teach monitoring "trouble tickets relating to network events and service problems on an *enterprise network*." (c. 3, ll. 29-31). This is not monitoring production equipment, so halting an in-progress job is not applicable to the teachings of Cogger. The other cited references also do not teach or suggest this limitation. Hence, claim 1 is believed to be allowable, at least for this reason.

Likewise, claim 20 includes "a process control program programmed to halt in-progress production jobs upon detection of a failure and resume in-progress production jobs

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upon resolution of the failure." This limitation is not taught by the cited references. Hence, claim 20 is believed to be allowable at least for this reason. Claims 22 and 28 include a similar limitation and are believed to be allowable, at least for this same reason.

Furthermore, claim 28 also teaches "a performance measurement system configured to track mail items processed for testing while the in-progress production job is halted." The cited references do not teach or suggest this. Hence, claim 28 is believed to be allowable, at least for this reason.

For at least the reasons stated above, independent claims 1, 20, 22, and 28 are believed to be allowable. The remaining pending claims depend from one of claims 1, 20, 22, and 28, and are believed to be allowable, at least for the reasons stated above.

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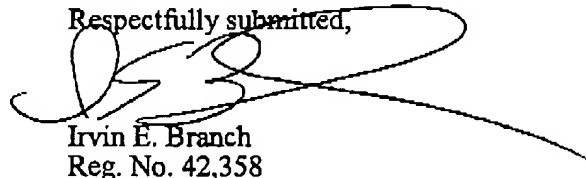
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PATENT**CONCLUSION**

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 303-571-4000.

Respectfully submitted,



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